

Message Text

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71

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 OIC-04 SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-11 FEA-02

FPC-01 H-03 INT-08 L-03 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 SAM-01

SCI-06 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 NEA-10 DRC-01 /194 W

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R 051350Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2055

INFO USUN NEW YORK 248

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 1460

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, ENRG, BR

SUBJ: UNGA: SPECIAL GROUP SEMINAR SESSION APRIL 9 AND ENERGY
COORDINATING

REF: STATE 040930

1. BATISTA (FONMIN ASST SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS) DESCRIBED
GENERAL GOB POLICY TOWARD PETROLEUM ISSUES AS FOLLOWS:
SINCE BRAZIL CANNOT PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN THESE MATTERS,
WE HAVE TO BE FLEXIBLE AND CAUTIOUS; WE HAVE AVOIDED TAKING
ANY PRECIPITATE ACTION AND HAVE BEEN CAREFUL TO GET THE FULL
FACTS BEFORE MAKING DECISIONS; WE DO NOT WISH TO BE IN THE
FOREFRONT OF ANY ACTION AND DESIRE ABOVE ALL TO AVOID
"CONFRONTATIONS".

2. ON UN SPECIAL SESSION IN PARTICULAR, BATISTA SAID THAT
BRAZIL WOULD HAVE PREFERRED NOT TO HAVE HAD SUCH A MEETING.
IN GENERAL BRAZIL IS OPPOSED TO SUCH MULTILATERAL MEETINGS
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ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY ARE INEFFECTIVE. THEY AGREED TO

THE SESSION WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR THAT IT WOULD BE UN-AVOIDABLE. THEY DID NOT WANT TO BE THE FIRST TO SAY YES, BUT THEY ALSO DID NOT WANT TO BE THE LAST. THEY ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETINGS OF THE 77 DISCUSSING THE SPECIAL SESSION, BUT ARE NOT PLAYING AN ACTIVE ROLE.

3. BECAUSE OF THE CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT ON MARCH 15, IT IS DIFFICULT FOR THE GOB TO DEFINE ITS POSITION IN ANY GREATER DETAIL. BATISTA WILL BE DISCUSSING THESE MATTERS WITH THE MINISTER DESIGNATE, HOWEVER, AND HOPES TO OBTAIN CLEARER GUIDANCE.

4. ON REPRESENTATION TO THE SPECIAL SESSION, BRAZIL'S UN AMBASSADOR BRAZAO MY LEAD THE DELEGATION, BUT THIS WILL NOT BE DETERMINED UNTIL SHORTLY BEFORE THE MEETING. IN AN ASIDE, BATISTA MENTIONED THAT THE NEW MINISTER MAY ALSO WISH TO MAKE SOME CHANGES IN AMBASSADORIAL POSTS, AND AT THIS STAGE HE (BATISTA) CANNOT BE CERTAIN THAT FRAZAO WILL BE IN US.

5. COMMENT: BRAZIL IS HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON OIL IMPORTS AND PARTICULARLY IN THIS PAST YEAR HAS BEEN CULTIVATING ITS RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE ARAB PRODUCERS. BRAZIL WILL SEEK TO AVOID BECOMING INVOLVED IN ANY ACTION THAT MIGHT CREATE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE ARABS. EMBASSY EXPECTATION IS THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT WILL BE AS CAREFUL AS ITS PREDECESSOR IN THIS POLICY AREA.

CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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